

# Town of Wellesley Bicycle Safety Committee

Community Outreach  
April 9, 2015



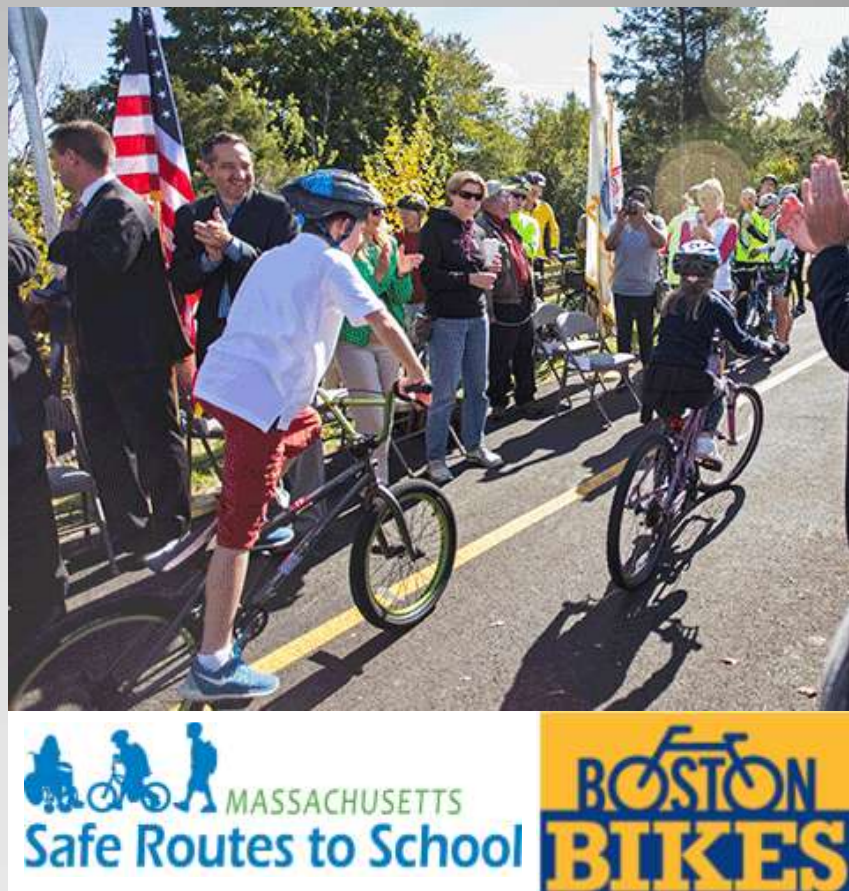
- Introduction of the Bicycle Safety Committee
- Work To-Date
- Relevant Actions To-Date
- Vision Statement
- Near-Term and Long-Term Goals
- Strategies
- Bicycles & Existing Community Plans
- Engineering Standards for Bikeable Streets
- Coordination with Schools
- Relevant Bylaws & Statutes
- Upcoming Events
- Public input

# Agenda

- **Police**  
Deputy Chief Jack  
Pilecki & Officer Kathy  
Poirier
- **DPW**  
Mike Pakstis
- **Engineering**  
Dave Hickey
- **Planning**  
Annie Ryan
- **Trails Committee**  
Jared Parker
- **Schools**  
Tony Bent
- **Selectmen**  
Ellen Gibbs
- **Selectmen's Office**  
Hans Larsen
- **Student**  
Sophia Kressy
- **Community Bike  
Advocates**  
Matthew Kressy  
& Maggie Egger

## Bicycle Safety Committee

- Identification of best practices (locally and nationally)
- Discussions with school principals, students and bike experts
  - Melissa Green - MassDOT Safe Routes to Schools
  - Bill DeSantis - VHB Bicycle Expert
  - Nicole Freedman – Director, Boston Bikes



## Committee's Work To-Date

- Recognition of differing needs of cyclists
- Development of the Five E's



## Committee's Work To-Date



1. **E**valuation and Planning
2. **E**ngineering
3. **E**ducation
4. **E**nforcement
5. **E**ncouragement



## The 5 E's of a Bikeable Community

- Comprehensive Plan (**2006**)
- Wellesley Walks (**2009**)
- Joined Metro-West Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) (**2011**)
- Formation of Transportation Advisory Group (**2012**) and development of public transit service (**2013**)
- Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Public Hearing (**2013**)
- Traffic Committee discussions of how to move forward

## Town Actions To-Date



The Town of Wellesley will be a model for **safe** and **widespread** bicycle travel for riders of all abilities traveling to a variety of destinations.

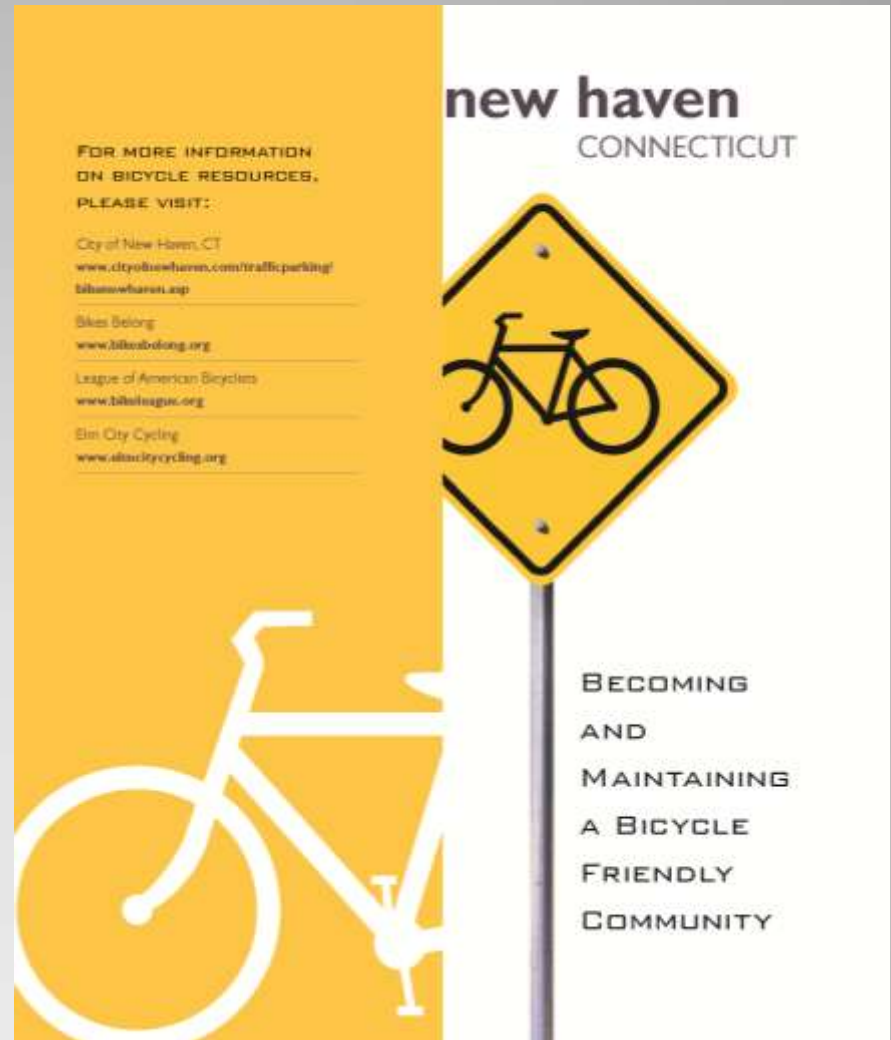
## Committee's Vision



## Near-Term Goal

- Advance immediate safety, education and community awareness for bicycle travel within Wellesley

## Committee's Goals



## Long-Term Goals

- Increase community reliance on pedestrian and bicycle transportation modes
- Build a network of bicycle routes for traveling safely within Wellesley to a variety of destinations



## Committee's Goals

- Inventory and assess Town's existing bicycle facilities
- Examine the interests of **all** mobility types: bikes, pedestrians, vehicles
- Dialogue with key constituencies: Schools, Bike Clubs, Green community, etc.



## Near-Term Strategies

- Develop a comprehensive Bicycle Plan with highly accessible network of off- and on-street bikeable routes
- Coordinate future roadway and sidewalk infrastructure projects with Bicycle Plan
- Incorporate Complete Streets guidelines into all right-of-way projects
- Provide new signage instructing drivers, bicyclists, and pedestrians on rules of the road.



## Long-Term Strategies

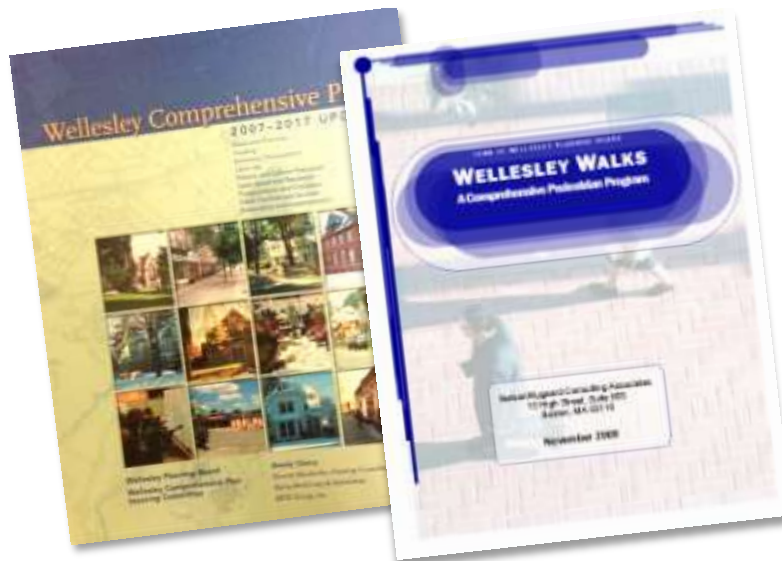


- What are the most critical routes for traveling through and around Wellesley on a bicycle?
- Where should the Town install bike lanes or shared lane markings?
- What would it mean to the community if some on-street parking was removed to make more roadway available for bikes?
- Which types of bicycle facilities are appropriate for children/inexperienced riders, and which types are better suited for more advanced riders?
- What is the potential for off-street bicycle routes in Wellesley?

## Next Step Questions...

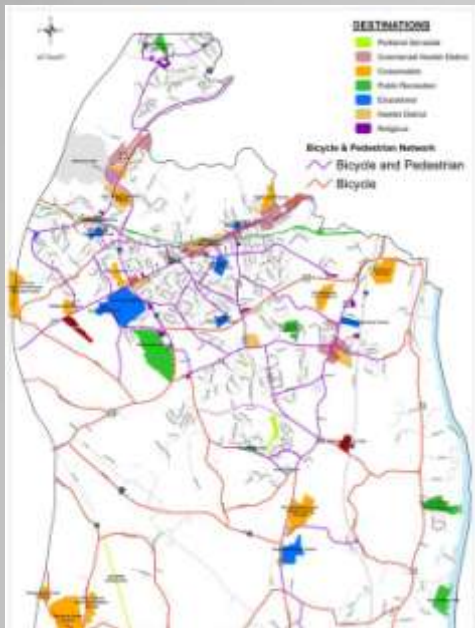


# Bicycles & Wellesley's Existing Community Plans



## Plan Recommendation:

- **Create a plan for off-street and on-street marked bicycle routes that connect town destinations and link to regional bicycle routes.**



# Wellesley Comprehensive Plan

## Relevant Strategies:

- **Create a town-wide bicycle master plan.**
- **Provide bicycling facilities, especially in areas with high automobile, bicycle or pedestrian volumes.**
- **Adopt 'Complete Streets' guidelines.**
- **Create narrower streets and travel lanes through paint or construction.**

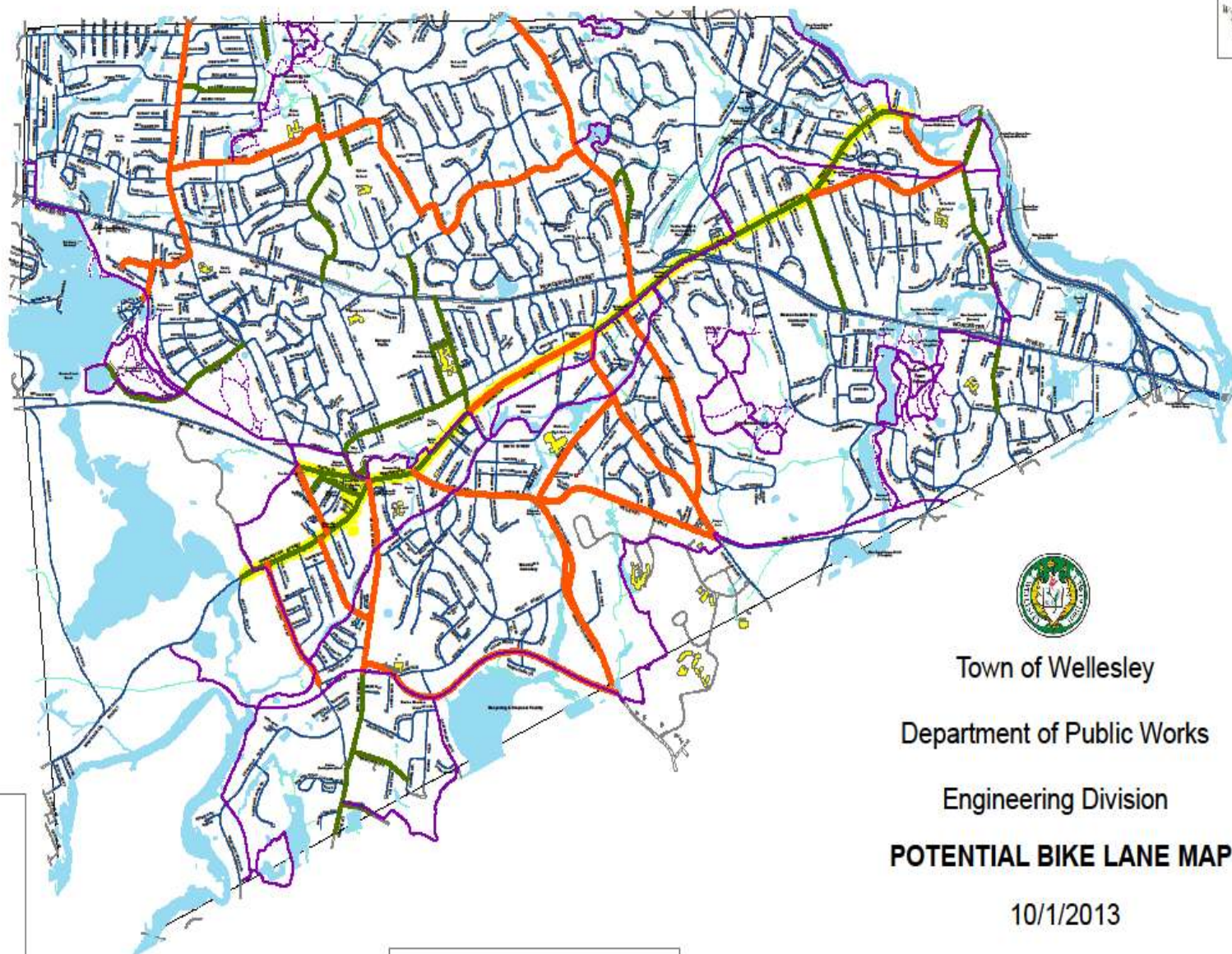


## Wellesley Walks Pedestrian Plan

# Engineering Standards for Bikeable Streets







Town of Wellesley

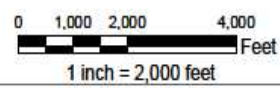
Department of Public Works

Engineering Division

# POTENTIAL BIKE LANE MAP

10/1/2013

- Legend**
- Public Buildings/Destinations
  - Contemplated Bike Lanes
  - Pavement Width > 28'
- Trails**
- Primary
  - Secondary
- Pavement Width > 28' w/ Parking NAME**
- CENTRAL STREET
  - WASHINGTON STREET
  - GROVE STREET





- Complete Streets adopted by MassDOT in 2006
- Goal: Accommodate **all** users within public right of way
- Balances safety, operational efficiency and sustainability through design

Complete Streets are Safe Streets



## Complete Streets Design Approach

**73%**

of Americans currently feel they have no choice but to drive as much as they do.

**57%**

would like to spend less time in their cars.

**39%**

of people who chose to walk or bike to work would meet their recommended daily exercise goal.

**Why Complete Streets?**



**By using streets in a more complete way, we may be able to make meaningful strides in health, safety and traffic congestion**

# **Coordination with Schools**

**Safe Routes to School**



- Properly fitted bike helmet
- Adjust bike to fit
- Check equipment
- See and be seen
- Control your bike
- Avoid road hazards
- Avoid riding at night



## Bicycle Safety

- Safest place for children is on sidewalk
- Walk your bike across street
- Know your route
- Let your parents know your route
- No riding in business districts (WALK your bike)
- If on sidewalk, communicate to pedestrian you are passing (Be courteous)
- One person only on your bike

## **Safe Riding Techniques**

- Always lock your bike to a rack or other secure object
- If at a friend's house – place it where it is not seen in plain view (e.g., garage or back yard)



**Proper Bike Locking**

**Students' Perspective**

# **Principals' and PTO's Perspectives**



# **Statutes and Bylaws governing bicyclists' use of roads and sidewalks**

- Cannot ride more than 2 abreast
- On a roadway with more than one lane in the direction of travel, bicyclists shall ride within a single lane
- Bicyclist must facilitate overtaking
- Age 16 and under - must wear a secured helmet
- May keep to the right when passing motor vehicle
- Shall signal by either hand intention to stop or turn, provided it is safe to do so
- May be ridden on sidewalks outside of business district (Town Bylaw), also cannot ride in front of store or church)

**Bicyclist Responsibilities:**  
**(M.G.L. c. 85 s. 11B, \$20 Fine)**

- When approaching or passing bicyclist, M/V must slow and pass at safe distance, at reasonable speed (M.G.L. c. 90 s. 14, \$100 Fine)
- M/V cannot turn right into path of bicyclist (M.G.L. c. 90 s. 14, \$35 Fine)
- M/V cannot turn left into path of oncoming bicyclist (M.G.L. c. 90 s. 14, \$35 Fine)
- M/V cannot open door of vehicle unless safe (M.G.L. c. 90 s. 14, \$100 Fine)
- M/V passing a bicyclist traveling in the same direction must use all or part of adjacent lane if it is safe, or wait until safe to pass (M.G.L. c. 89 s. 2, \$100 Fine)

## **Motorist Responsibilities:**

# Upcoming Events



# Washington Street Restriping



# Wellesley's Wonderful Weekend Bike Event



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**Saturday May 16 2015**  
**9:00 – 4:00**  
**Tailby Parking Lot**

- Landry's - free 10 minute tune-ups
- Steve the Bike Guy – sponsoring Computrainer competitions
- Raffles with gift certificates
- Trials Riders and/or Bike Stunts

**Bike Vendors**

- Hosting Bike Rodeos
- Bike Safety
- Bike Basics
- Bike Promotional Material

**In Collaboration with MassDot and  
Mass Bike**

- Small off-road bike races
- Age groups: 4-6 / 6-8 / 8-10
  - Training Wheels and Parents' Guiding Hands-Allowed
- Informal guide to mountain biking with examples by our volunteers

**Race Around the Duck Pond for  
Kids Ages 4-10**



- Wellesley Police
- Egger Family with Mountain Bikes (5)
- Melissa Green of Mass Dot – Bike Rodeo
- Matt and Sophia Kressy (+2?)
- Jared Parker

**Volunteers**

# Public Comment

# Next Steps